

SUBJECT: *Testimony for Lease
Moonshine Hollow on the Tiber*

TO: Lonnie R. Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: Gary J. Arthur, Director 

DATE: January 17, 2007

**DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS
410-313-4700**

The Department of Recreation and Parks recommends supporting Council Resolution # authorizing a long-term lease to Historic Ellicott City, Inc., for the property known as Moonshine Hollow on the Tiber.

Historic Ellicott City, Inc., has a long and successful record of contributing to historic restoration efforts and viable management of several sites in Ellicott City. Since its inception in 1973, HEC, Inc., has made major financial contributions toward and managed restoration and operations through leases with the Department of Recreation and Parks for the B&O Railroad Station Museum, the Thomas Isaac Log Cabin and the Court Records Building, all County-owned sites. These sites have been catalysts for tourism, increased public awareness of County history and even the development of Recreation and Parks Heritage preservation and programming efforts.

The concept of a mill to serve as a point of orientation and information for Ellicott City is compatible with the mission of Recreation and Parks as well as the Howard County Tourism Office.

There will be no County funding provided for this effort. The property has minimal potential for any other use. The Tiber River has been channelized through Ellicott City so there will be no impact to the river corridor. We feel this will be a positive addition to Ellicott City and Howard County.

GJA/JRB:tz

cc: John Byrd
Jennifer Sager

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